AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** An oral composition for alveolar bone resorption inhibition and periodontal membrane loss inhibition, comprising a soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D_3;

wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone is obtained from or in an extract from whole-grain soy; the genistein/daidzein weight ratio in the soy isoflavone aglycone is in the range of 1/1 to 1.5/1, and the proportion of the total weight of genistein and daidzein in the soy isoflavone aglycone is at least 90%.

2. **(Currently Amended)** An agent for preventing or treating gingival recession, comprising a soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D_3;

wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone is obtained from or in an extract from whole-grain soy; the genistein/daidzein weight ratio in the soy isoflavone aglycone is in the range of 1/1 to 1.5/1, and the proportion of the total weight of genistein and daidzein in the soy isoflavone aglycone is at least 90%.

3. **(Currently Amended)** An agent for preventing or treating alveolar bone resorption and periodontal membrane loss, comprising a soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D_3;

wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone is obtained from or in an extract from whole-grain soy; the genistein/daidzein weight ratio in the soy isoflavone aglycone is in the range of 1/1 to 1.5/1, and the proportion of the total weight of genistein and daidzein in the soy isoflavone aglycone is at least 90%.

4. **(Previously Presented)** A composition or agent according to Claim 1, wherein the proportion of soy isoflavone aglycone in the composition or agent is 0.001% to 10% by weight; and the proportion of calcium in the composition or agent is 0.01% to 50% by weight.

5. **(Previously Presented)** A composition or agent according to Claim 1, wherein the composition or agent is for persons having decreased bone density, postmenopausal women, or periodontal disease patients in a maintenance phase.

6. **(Canceled)**

7. **(Withdrawn)** A method for inhibiting alveolar bone resorption and periodontal membrane loss, comprising orally administering a composition according to Claim 1.

8. **(Withdrawn)** A method for preventing or treating gingival recession, comprising orally administering a soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D_3.

9. **(Withdrawn)** A method for preventing or treating alveolar bone resorption and periodontal membrane loss, comprising orally administering a soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D_3.

10. **(Withdrawn)** A method according to claim 8, wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D_3 are administered to persons having decreased bone density, postmenopausal women, or periodontal disease patients in a maintenance phase.

11. **(Withdrawn)** A method according to claim 9, wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone is administered in an amount of 10 mg to 40 mg per day; and calcium is administered in an amount of 500 mg to 2000 mg per day.

12. **(Previously Presented)** A composition or agent according to claim 3, wherein the proportion of soy isoflavone aglycone in the composition or agent is 0.001% to 10% by weight; and the proportion of calcium in the composition or agent is 0.01% to 50% by weight.

13. **(Previously Presented)** A composition or agent according to claim 3, wherein the composition or agent is for persons having decreased bone density, postmenopausal women, or periodontal disease patients in a maintenance phase.

14. **(Withdrawn)** A method for inhibiting alveolar bone resorption and periodontal membrane loss, comprising orally administering a composition according to claim 6.

15. **(Withdrawn)** A method according to claim 9, wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone, calcium, and vitamin D_3 are administered to persons having decreased bone density, postmenopausal women, or periodontal disease patients in a maintenance phase.

16. **(Withdrawn)** A method according to claim 10, wherein the soy isoflavone aglycone is administered in an amount of 10 mg to 40 mg per day; and calcium is administered in an amount of 500 mg to 2000 mg per day.